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Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 IO-14 JUSE-00

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EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: SNAR
SUBJECT: NARCOTICS CONTROL PROJECT

REF: STATE 200577

1. THE MISSION'S NARCOTICS COORDINATING COMMITTEE CONSIDERS THAT THE $12,000 REQUESTED FOR SUPPORT OF THE PERUVIAN INVESTIGATION POLICE (PIP) BUDGET IS ESSENTIAL TO THE CONTINUED MOMENTUM OF THE NARCOTICS PROGRAM AND IS A SOUND AND PRODUCTIVE U.S. INVESTMENT.

2. THIS SMALL AMOUNT IS NOT BUDGET SUPPORT PER SE BUT RATHER A SPECIAL INVESTIGATION OPERATIONS FUND. IT PAYS PER DIEM AND GASOLINE EXPENSES, ETC. FOR AGENTS TO TRAVEL INTO THE COUNTRYSIDE. TO PARTICIPATE IN ARRESTS/INVESTIGATIONS PRIOR TO THE AVAILABILITY OF THE SPECIAL FUND, AGENTS HAD TO MEET SUCH EXPENSES OUT OF THEIR OWN POCKETS -- A CLEAR DETERRENT ON THE SCOPE OF THEIR OPERATIONS.

3. WHILE WE FULLY AGREE THAT IDEALLY SUCH FUNDS SHOULD BE PROVIDED BY THE GOP AND WHILE WE HAVE SO REQUESTED, OUR REPRESENTATIONS HAVE NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL TO DATE. THE PROBLEM IS NOT PRIMARILY THE AMOUNT OF THE FUNDS. RATHER, GOP ADMINISTRTIVE PROCEDURES ARE SIMPLY NOT CONDUCTIVE TO QUICK RESPONSES.

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4. NOR DO WE BELIEVE THE COMMITMENT OF THE GOP TO THE NARCOTICS

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PROGRAM SHOULD BE MEASURED BY THIS MINOR FACTOR. THE GOP IS EXPEND-
ING SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS ON PERSONNEL, MATERIAL, AND OTHER COSTS OF
THE PROGRAM EVEN THOUGH, AS INDICATED IN THE ACTION PLAN, THEY VIEW
NARCOTICS AS MORE OF A PROBLEM FOR THE U.S. THAN FOR PERU.

5. THE SPECIAL FUND IS BEING USED IN A PRODUCTIVE MANNER. DURING
THE PAST 18 MONTHS, APPROXIMTELY 35 PIP NARCOTIC INVESTIGATIONS
WERE INITIATED THROUGHOUT PERU BY USING THE PROGRAM'S FUNDS.
SEVERAL OF THESE INVESTIGATIONS RESULTED IN SIGNIFICANT NARCOTIC
SEIZURES, THE LARGEST BEING 131 KILOGRAMS OF COCA PASTE, WHICH WAS
SEIZED IN AUGUST OF 1973.

6. IN SUM, THE GOP HAS INCREASED ITS PRODUCTIVITY IN NARCOTICS
ENFORCEMENT DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS WHICH THE U.S. HAS
PROVIDED THE SPECIAL FUND. IN THE COMMITTEE'S VIEW, THE SPECIAL
FUND IS ESSENTIAL TO INCREASED SUCCESS OF THE NARCOTICS PROGRAM IN
PERU AND HAS YIELDED EXCELLENT REFORMS FOR A VERY SMALL INVESTMENT.
WE URGE THAT THIS REQUEST BE APPROVED ASAP. DECONTROL 12/31/77.
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